

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 30th December 1893.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Māsik"	Calcutta ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura ...	360	
3	"Grāmvāsī"	Ramkristopur, Howrah	1,000	
4	"Kaliyuga"	Calcutta ...	.....
5	"Kasipur Nivāsī"	Kasipur, Barisāl ...	300	
6	"Navamihir"	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
7	"Sadar-o-Mufassal"	Tahirpur, Rajshahi ...	650	
8	"Ulubaria Darpan"	Ulubaria ...	755	
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>				
9	"Hitakari"	Tangail, Mymensingh	800	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
10	"Bangavāsī"	Calcutta ...	20,000	23rd December 1893.
11	"Banganivāsī"	Ditto ...	8,000	22nd ditto.
12	"Burdwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	220	19th ditto.
13	"Chāruvārtā"	Sherpur, Mymensingh	300	
14	"Chinsura Vārtāvaha"	Chinsura ...	.....	24th ditto.
15	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	5,000	24th ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	1,050	22nd ditto.
17	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	212	
18	"Hitavādī"	Calcutta ...	3,000	21st ditto.
19	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore ...	.....
20	"Pratikār"	Ditto ...	611	
21	"Rangpur Dikprakāsh"	Kakinia, Rangpur ...	170	
22	"Sachitra Bhārat Samvād"	Calcutta ...	.....	26th ditto.
23	"Sahachar"	Ditto ...	800-1,000	20th ditto.
24	"Samaj-o-Sāhitya"	Garibpore, Nadia ...	1,000	
25	"Samaya"	Calcutta ...	3,000	22nd ditto.
26	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	23rd ditto.
27	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	.....
28	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	(300-400)	23rd ditto.
29	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta ...	800	25th ditto.
30	"Srimanta Sadagar"	Ditto ...	.....
31	"Sudhakar"	Ditto ...	3,600	22nd ditto.
32	"Vikrampur"	Lauhajangha, Dacca ...	.....	21st ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
33	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ...	500	21st, 22nd, 23rd 27th and 28th Dec. 1893.
34	"Bengal Exchange Gazette"	Ditto ...	.....
35	"Dainik-o-Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	1,500	24th and 26th to 28th Dec. 1893.
36	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	1,435	28th December 1893.
37	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	22nd, 23rd, 25th and 28th Dec. 1893.
38	"Sulabh Dainik"	Ditto ...	.....	22nd, 23rd, 27th and 28th Dec. 1893.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
39	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	500-600	25th December 1893.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
40	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Samāchār Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	400	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Aryāvarta"	Dinapore ...	750	
42	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	500	
43	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	30th November 1893.
44	"Champanan Chandrika"	Bettiah ...	350	
45	"Desī Vyāpārī"	Calcutta ...	.....
46	"Hindi Bangavāsī"	Ditto ...	5,000	18th December 1893.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	750	22nd ditto.
48	"Anis"	Patna ...	.....
49	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta ...	.....
50	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide"	Ditto ...	300	18th and 25th December 1893.
51	"General and Gauharīasfī"	Ditto ...	410	22nd December 1893.
52	"Mehre Monawar"	Muzaffarpur ...	.....
53	"Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad"	Murshidabad ...	150	
54	"Setare Hind"	Arrah ...	.....
55	"Shokh"	Monghyr ...	100	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates papers received and examined for the week.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Asha"	Cuttack ...	80	
57	"Echo"	Ditto ...	.....
58	"Pradíp"	Ditto ...	.....
59	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ...	.....
60	"Taraka and Subhavártá"	Ditto ...	.....
61	"Utkalprabha"	Baripada ...	250	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
62	"Dipaka"	Cuttack ...	.....
63	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore ...	225	16th and 23rd November 1893.
64	"Uriya and Navasamvád"	Ditto ...	420	15th and 22nd ditto.
65	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	400	18th and 25th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
66	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	480	For the second fortnight of <i>Agrahayan</i>
67	"Silchar"	Silchar ...	250	1300 B.S.
68	"Srihattavási"	Sylhet ...	.....	For the first fortnight of <i>Paus</i> 1300 B.S.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 18th December says that China having sent a Political Agent to St. Petersburg to settle the Pamir question, it is time for the British Government to look sharp, or the arrangement that may be made between China and Russia may go against India.

The Pamir question.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 18th, 1893.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. The *Bangavasi* of the 23rd December is rejoiced at the acquittal of the accused in the Balladhun case, and feels grateful to British justice which has saved four human lives. But the writer is really sorry that Cockburn's murderers remain untraced, and that British prestige on the Assam frontier has received a severe blow. Will the police which committed oppression in order to pass off innocent persons as guilty, and which has failed to detect the real criminals and thereby maintain Government's prestige go unpunished?

The Assam Police in the Balladhun case.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

3. A correspondent of the same paper says that the existence of a police out-post at Kochmaligram within the jurisdiction of the Pandua thana in the Hooghly district secured the lives and property of the residents against thieves and dacoits. But for some unknown reason Government has recently abolished this outpost, and thefts and dacoities will be sure to increase in the place.

The abolition of a police out-post in the Hooghly district.

BANGAVASI,
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(b)—Working of the Courts.

4. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 19th December, says that people would have no objection to pay court-fees if these fees were levied at a rate which would be barely sufficient to meet the cost of maintaining the civil courts. But when Government makes a profit out of these courts, the people can fairly ask whether the Civil Courts are really places for the dispensation of justice, or whether they are only so many shops for the sale of justice. The Bengal Government made a profit of forty-two lakhs of rupees out of the law courts last year. The writer does not know if such a profit is made by any other civilised Government.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 19th, 1893.

The Munsifs' Courts alone brought a profit of 36 lakhs of rupees. But it is the Munsifs who have to work themselves to death, and Government does nothing to mitigate their hard lot. The ministerial officers in these Courts are also so poorly paid that they are obliged to use unfair means in order to increase their income. A slight increase in their salaries will be a boon to the country.

Cannot the court-fee scales be also somewhat reduced? From summons fees alone a profit of fourteen lakhs was derived last year, while the expenditure on this head amounted to only seven lakhs: so Government would still make a profit if it halved the present scale of summons fees.

The people of this country are blind, or the writer would have asked them if they ever weigh the value of the thing which they purchase at such a cost in the law courts. If they have not ever done this, let them do it, and refrain from purchasing the thing any more.

5. The same paper says that the whole country is glad at the appointment of Babu Pramada Charan Banerji as Judge of the Allahabad High Court. But Babu Pramada Charan is a Bengali, and that will, in spite of his fitness for the post, make him an eyesore to all haters of Bengalis.

Babu Pramada Charan Banerji in the Allahabad High Court.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,

6. The *Hitavadi* of the 21st December says that the conduct of the Assam Government in connection with the Balladhun case was as reprehensible and despicable as was the conduct of Babu Kamini Kumar Chandra noble and praiseworthy. The writer cannot understand what led the Assam Government to interest itself in the case so much that it sent, contrary to the usual practice, and at the expense of Government, the Inspector-General of Police, Assam, and the Inspector of Police, Sylhet, to watch the case in the High Court. The fact of these officers coming to watch the case ought to form the subject of an interpellation in the Viceroy's Council.

The Assam Government in the Balladhun case.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 21st, 1893.

SAMAY,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

7. The *Samay* of the 22nd December says that it is true the accused in the Balladhun case have at last got their acquittal, but who will compensate them for the false case

which was brought against them by the police? If some kindly disposed persons had not helped these unfortunate men with money, they would certainly have lost their lives, and the police would have been lauded for having successfully traced the culprits and brought them to justice. The high-handedness of the police has gone on increasing because Government never looks into its doings. In the present case, however, it is hoped that the authorities will call for all the papers and punish those officers who acted unlawfully.

SULABH DAINIK,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

8. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 22nd December says that the Sessions Judge of Saran having asked the Local Magistrate for the police diary in the Basantapur cow case, the latter has said that all the papers relating to that case have been destroyed. But what right has the Magistrate to destroy the papers of any case? Government should enquire into the matter as soon as possible. Nothing can be more disgraceful than this destruction of the records of a case.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

9. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 24th December has been requested to write about a certain arrangement which is said to exist between a Deputy Magistrate of Dacca and certain mukhtars, but the writer will write nothing until somebody undertakes to prove the fact.

(c)—Jails.

CHINSURA
VARTAVAHA,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

10. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 24th December says that the Hooghly Jail being situated almost in the middle of a populous quarter of the town, and it being the practice of the Jail authorities to let out the urine of the prisoners twice a day, the wells in that quarter get very much polluted. The matter was represented to the jaidaroga and the jaildoctor, but no notice has been taken of the complaint. It is hoped that Sir Charles Elliott, who is doing so much for water-supply in the mufassal, will remove this nuisance.

(d)—Education.

AL PUNCH,
Dec. 14th, 1893.

11. *Al Punch* of the 22nd December says that the Theatrical Club in Patna is doing great mischief to the student community in that city.

VIKRAMPUR,
Dec. 21st, 1893.

12. The *Vikrampur* of the 21st December has received a letter containing charges against a certain teacher in the Dacca Survey School, and says that the charges are so serious that the writer can hardly bring himself to believe them to be true, and will be very sorry if they are found to be true.

SULABH DAINIK,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

13. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 22nd December greatly rejoices at the appointment of an experienced educational officer like Sir Alfred Croft as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, and hopes that the public too will rejoice at his appointment.

SUDHAKAR,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

14. The *Sudhakar* of the 22nd December continues its examination of Babu Sashi Bhushan Chatterji's "Bhugol Prakash" commenced in the preceding issue, and remarks

as follows:—

The author gives the population of Europe as 309,000,000.

But the populations of the different countries of Europe, as given by him, are shown below:—

England and Wales ...	29,000,000	Austria ...	41,800,000
Scotland ...	3,900,000	Portugal ...	4,300,000
Ireland ...	4,750,000	Spain ...	16,800,000
Sweden ...	4,750,000	Italy ...	29,600,000
Norway ...	2,000,000	Greece ...	2,000,000
Russia ...	86,400,000	Turkey in Europe ...	8,600,000
The German Empire ...	46,850,000	Roumania ...	5,300,000
Denmark ...	2,000,000	Servia ...	2,100,000
Holland ...	4,400,000	Monte Negro ...	220,000
Belgium ...	6,000,000		
France ...	38,000,000	Total ...	341,720,000
Switzerland ...	2,900,000		

Thus there is a difference of 32,720,000 between the total and the detailed statement of population.

The total population of Turkey in Europe is given in the book as 8,600,000; but the populations of its component parts, as given there, are as follows:—

Turkey Proper	...	...	...	4,600,000
Bulgaria	...	...	...	2,900,000
Total				7,600,000

Thus here, too, there is a difference of 1,000,000 between the two statements.

The revenues of the German Empire are set down at 77 crores and 54 lakhs of rupees in Indian money, while those of Prussia are stated to be 79 crores and 33 lakhs, and this is absurd on the face of it, for Prussia is a part of the German Empire.

In the same manner the population of Africa, as given by the author, is shown not to tally with the total of the populations of its component parts as given by him.

The author's statement of the areas of the different religions prevailing in Africa is equally erroneous. He says :—"Muhammadanism prevails in Barbary, Egypt, Nubia, Seni Gambia and some other parts of the country; and Christianity in Abyssinia and Cape Colony. Idolatry is the religion in other parts of the country." Whereas the truth is that Muhammadanism prevails also in the vast tract from Somali to Sofala in Eastern Africa, in the Soudan, in the Sahara and in the large region in Central Africa discovered by Emin Pasha. There is also a large number of Musalman residents in the independent State of Fango, in the Guinea Coast and in Cape Colony.

It is not easy to see what good students will derive from reading such a book.

15. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 24th December strongly protests against the appointment of Sir Alfred Croft, Director of Public Instruction, as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Already the Director is supporting in the Syndicate the educational policy of Government, and if he becomes Vice-Chancellor, the University will become a part of the Education Department. Everybody should protest against this appointment.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

16. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 24th December says that one of the grounds on which the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Chittagong, has recommended the abolition of the Chittagong Normal School is that already many passed students of that school are sitting idle for want of employment. But this is a strange reason for recommending the abolition of the school. From where will Chittagong get a supply of pandits when the 15 or 16 pandits who now sit idle will have received appointments? Will the Deputy Inspector then propose the re-establishment of the Normal School? The writer hears that Mr. Oldham, the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, has, on the strength of the Deputy Inspector's Report, recommended the abolition of the Normal School, but he cannot believe that an officer of Mr. Oldham's experience will accept the injudicious recommendation of a young Educational Officer who possesses no local knowledge or experience.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

17. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 28th December, whilst expressing itself delighted at the appointment of Sir Alfred Croft to the Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University, says that it agrees with the *Indian Nation* that either Sir Alfred should be removed from his official post if he wants to keep the Vice-Chancellorship, or some other competent person should be appointed Vice-Chancellor. Considering the intimate connection of the Education Department with the Calcutta

SULABH DAINIK,
Dec. 28th, 1893.

University, the Chancellor should have weighed the matter well before appointing the Director of Public Instruction to the Vice-Chancellorship.

(c)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SANACHAR,
Dec. 20th, 1893.

18. The *Sachar* of the 20th December says it is a serious thing, the allegation of Captain Hearsey that the upper surface of the water-pipes brought to Benares are greased with

The Benares water-pipes.

the fat of cows and hogs. Benares is a place of pilgrimage which every Hindu thinks it obligatory upon himself to visit once in his life, and where many Hindus spend the closing years of their life for their spiritual welfare; and greased water-pipes will be as objectionable to the Musalmans as they will be to the Hindus. It is now proved that cartridges were really greased in 1857. It is not to be supposed that after the warning received in 1857 the Government will rest satisfied with making a careless enquiry into the truth of the Captain's allegation. We therefore believe that the enquiry that Government has made into the matter has been a full enquiry and request our countrymen to set their hearts at ease on the point in spite of what Captain Hearsey says. The Captain is not, however, the man to make a false statement knowing it to be false. The Government will therefore do well to set all doubts at rest by making a public enquiry into the matter such as the Captain has asked for.

SANACHAR.

19. The same paper says that certain officials are making themselves unpopular by expressing an almost feminine jealousy of the educated natives. The people have an impression that the Divisional Commissioners are

Mr. Westmacott and Self-Government.

cool-headed old men. But Mr. Westmacott, the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, has shown by certain acts of his that he views the native educated community with great dislike. He has, it is said, issued a circular directing the Magistrates under him not to nominate pleaders and mukhtars as Municipal Commissioners. This order of the Commissioner is illegal. What this circular aims at it is not difficult to see. The object of officials at present is to leave nothing of Self-Government except the name, and as pleader-Chairmen and pleader-Commissioners are very troublesome to manage, it is sought to eject the entire body of them from the municipalities. It is to be hoped, however, that Mr. Westmacott will be wise enough to read the signs of the times, and will not make the vain attempt to stem the tide of inevitable progress that has set in the country.

SANJIVANI
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

20. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd December says that one Babu Kailash Chandra Bhattacharyya having failed to get elected

A new Municipal election at Comilla.

as a Municipal Commissioner in the Comilla town, Tippera district, owing to certain vagaries on the part of the polling officer, Kshetragopal Babu, the District Magistrate has asked the Commissioner of the Division to cancel the late election and order a new one. On the day on which a municipal election is held at any place all the public offices there are closed. But one day's salary of all the public officers from the District Judge to the peon will amount to at least Rs. 1,500, and so much money will be lost if a new election has to be made in consequence of the vagaries of a single officer. Kshetragopal Babu should be dismissed from the service.

SANJIVANI,

21. The same paper says that repeated outbreaks of cholera are now seen in the Barisal town. This seems to be due to

Cholera in the Barisal town.

scarcity of drinking water (there being only one reserved tank in the town), to the narrow water-channels in the town, the water of which is used for drinking purposes, having jungle on both their sides and being polluted by the boatmen's filthy practices therein, and to certain privies in the town being never cleansed.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 25th, 1893.

22. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 25th December, cannot approve of the proposal of the Chairman of the Faridpur Municipality to adopt the sunset law in the collection of municipal dues. Mr. Luttmann-Johnson, Commissioner of the Dacca Division, is, however, in favour of the proposal.

The sunset law in municipalities.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

23. A correspondent of the *Banganivasi* of the 22nd December complains of the high-handed conduct of the zamindar of Loknathpur in the Nadia district, and says that the following are some instances of his high-handed-

An oppressive zamindar in the Nadia district.

ness :—

- (1) There is a pond at the northern extremity of Loknathpur, which is the only reservoir for the supply of drinking water in the village; and the raiyats, fearing lest anybody should pollute its water by fishing in it, took a lease of it for Rs. 11. When the water in the pond fell to a low level, the raiyats themselves caught fish. But the zamindar brought an action against thirty raiyats and had them sent up for trial. The Magistrate, however, acquitted all of them.
- (2) The zamindar exacts from the raiyats illegal cesses to the extent of eight annas for every rupee of rent.
- (3) Whenever a raiyat deposits money in payment of rent, the naib first deducts *har hisabana* from it, and then enters the remainder to the raiyat's credit. And the zamindar has on his part harassed a large number of raiyats by suits for arrears of rent and has also ejected many of them.
- (4) The girl daughter-in-law of one Hiru Shaha, a man whose services are entertained by the zamindar simply for giving evidence in the courts, having in company with her mother gone to her father's house, the zamindar had a false case of kidnapping brought against three of his raiyats, who were ultimately sentenced to imprisonment.
- (5) He had a most unjust case of criminal trespass brought by one Miah Jan against one Ahad Mandal, who was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment.
- (6) Many *brahmottur* holdings, entered as such even in the Collector's records, have been assessed to rent by the zamindar.
- (7) The holders of these *brahmottur* lands are sued by the zamindar whenever they reap away any harvest from their respective lands. All such cases brought this year have been dismissed. These cases are brought simply to harass the Brahmans who hold these lands.
- (8) A false case was brought against one Rasik Das and his children for having caused hurt to one Akali Halsana. The case was dismissed.

The Editor advises the raiyats to make a representation to the Magistrate, clearly stating all their grievances. The Magistrate will then certainly see that the zamindar does not exact illegal cesses from them nor commits oppression upon them.

24. Referring to the subject of the payment of rent by revenue money-order, a correspondent of the *Bangavasi*

of the 23rd December, says that in most cases where the raiyats remit rent by postal money-order, they do so because they have no other alternative left. If for any reason a raiyat falls out with his zamindar, or if he refuses to pay any illegal cess, or increased rent, the zamindar at once stops receiving his rent, and tries to bring the raiyat round by harassing him with suits for arrears of rent. The zamindar considers this the best course to follow, for he cannot obtain the assistance of the law in collecting illegal cesses, and the law court is an expensive and not always a sure means of getting enhanced rent. Under these circumstances the raiyat has no alternative but to pay his rent by means of postal money-order if the zamindar refuses to receive it himself. Now, if the zamindars were left at liberty either to accept these money-orders or not, they would certainly not accept them, for refusal would best serve their interest and lead the raiyats to inevitable ruin. It is clear, therefore, that a discontinuance of rent money-orders will seriously inconvenience the raiyats, whilst there can be no doubt that the rent money-order form in vogue gives no opportunity to the raiyats

BANGANIVASI,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

to injure the zamindar, and that remittance of rent by money-orders greatly benefits the raiyats, and saves them from a good deal of oppression by the zamindars.

It cannot be questioned after this that it is desirable to bind down the zamindar in a manner which will make it impossible for him to refuse to accept money-orders. The rule made by the Board of Revenue, or some similar rule is, therefore, an absolute necessity.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

25. The *Bangavasi* of the 23rd December draws attention to the inconvenience which is suffered by passengers at the Ranaghat station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway line for want of a waiting room, and says that so much indifference to the comfort and requirements of railway passengers should not be shown on a line which is worked by Government, for it is Government which ought to set the example to other Railway Administrations which are purely commercial concerns.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 25th, 1893.

26. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 25th December says that an extension of the Jessore-Khulna line up to Madaripur in the Faridpur district, and a steamer service from Madaripur to Chandpur, which will be a station on the Assam-Chittagong railway, will offer great facilities to trade and travelling, and at the same time bring a handsome profit to Government.

(h)—*General.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 19th, 1893.

27. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 19th December does not approve of the order of the Government of India empowering the police to fire real shots in a riot, because the power will likely cause great mischief in the hands of the police. So far as the writer is aware, blank discharges have ever been found effective in dispersing rioters. Government should reconsider its circular.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 21st, 1893.

28. The *Hitavadi* of the 21st December cannot understand what induced Government to pass the order about firing in riots. It is true that in riots men become excited almost to the point of madness, and do many things which they would not do in their senses, and which they repent when they cool down. But it is difficult to see how Government could so coolly order real shots to be fired on maddened crowds. It is certainly Government's duty to quell riots, but it is also its clear duty to see that in so doing its subjects are not unnecessarily killed. If blank discharges are found sufficient to disperse a mob and quell a riot, nothing will be gained by shedding blood. But when Government has passed orders authorising the firing of real shots, it must be that it considers this a very necessary step. Some people guess that Government entertains apprehensions of frequent riots in the future, and has probably even received information to that effect, and is therefore keeping itself prepared against emergencies. Well, it may be so or not; but supposing the conjecture to be correct, would the step which Government has adopted furnish the best means of preventing or quelling riots in the future? If Government really fears frequent riots in the future, should it not be its duty to enquire into their cause? Quacks only allay the outward symptoms of a disease by the application of violent remedies which serve only to debilitate the patient instead of curing him. It is, in fact, pure folly to attempt to allay outward symptoms without going to the root of a disease. If Government can ascertain the cause of the riots, and then, after careful consideration, apply the properest remedies, riots will cease. But the firing of real shots instead of blank cartridges in a riot will not only be the cause of bloodshed and death, but will give a fresh impetus to rioting. Blood is the food from which popular disturbances draw their best nourishment, and once blood is spilt, they grow a hundredfold more violent. And do not the authorities know or understand this common fact? It is to be hoped that Government will withdraw the circular, which is calculated to do harm both to itself and its subjects.

29. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd December says that it may appear strange

The opium question.

that the zamindars and merchants who are giving evidence before the Opium Commission in India

and Burma, on the invitation of Government, are all praising the drug, whilst those who are coming forward of their own accord are all condemning it. But a little consideration will show that this is perfectly natural. Government is interested in the maintenance of the opium trade on account of the revenue it brings, and it has therefore sought to produce before the Commission only such witnesses as will support the opium trade. The zamindars and merchants are also interested in the continuance of that trade, because the latter make a profit out of it, while the former fear that the loss of revenue resulting from the abolition of the opium trade may lead Government to annul the permanent settlement. The unselfish spirit in which the Shan sardar Sabowar condemned opium in his evidence before the Commission should put the enlightened Rajas and Rai Bahadurs of Bengal to the blush.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

30. A correspondent of the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 23rd December says

A postal complaint from Dakshin-Barasat, in the 24-Parganas district.

that letters from the Jaynagar post-office, in the 24-Parganas district, take two days to reach the Dakshin-Barasat village post-office. The Calcutta

post goes to Jaynagar and from there to Magrahat and then to Dakshin-Barasat. This delay in delivery can be prevented by taking out all letters for Barasat at the Jaynagar post-office, and sending them direct to Barasat, and from there to the Dakshin-Barasat post-office. It is hoped that the postal authorities will make this arrangement.

SULABH DAINIK,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

The residents of the village Bahuru, which is served by Dakshin-Barasat village post-office, are about to submit a petition for the opening of a post-office in that village. But the writer thinks that the employment of an additional peon at the Dakshin-Barasat post-office will obviate the necessity of a fresh post-office at Bahuru.

31. The *Bangavasi* of the 23rd December says that a peon of the *Bangavasi*

The opium question.

office having been attacked with intermittent fever, and having obtained no relief by the use of quinine

and other medicines, was on two successive occasions, when fever was expected, given a small dose of opium two hours before the usual time of the attack, and he has since had no attack. The man has recovered from his malarial fever and is a perfect healthy man now. What will the missionaries say to this?

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

32. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 24th December says that Mr. Luttmann-

Mr. Luttmann-Johnson.

Johnson, the favourite disciple of Sir Charles Elliott, is touring about in the mufassal during the

greater part of the year and is grinding down his subordinates by overwhelming pressure of work. Will not the Commissioner's kind heart melt to see his Personal Assistant, Babu Akshaykumar Sen, broken down by hard work?

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

33. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 24th December objects to

A circular of Sir Charles Crosthwaite.

the circular issued by Sir Charles Crosthwaite, prohibiting Government officers from joining all associations whose work may awaken race antipathy,

and says that the object of this circular is perhaps only to keep Government officers aloof from the Gorakshani Sabhas; but, worded as it is, it will also prevent Hindu officers from joining the Dharma Mandal or any association that may be formed for the propagation of Brahma worship, or for the protection of young Hindus against missionary influence, or for the stopping of Muhammadan interference with Hindu religious practices. It will also prevent officers who are not Hindu from joining associations for the protection of their respective religious interests; and officers will thus be deprived of all independence. Such a circular is a proof of official despotism. Sir Charles Crosthwaite will probably be discredited for this circular.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

34. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 26th December says that

Division in the Opium Commission.

Mr. Wilson, the anti-opiumist member of the Opium Commission, is displeased with Lord Brassey who, referring to the evidence given by Mr. Lyall of the

Board of Revenue, praised Government for its judicious collection of evidence. Mr. Wilson has condemned Government for the selection it has made of its witnesses. He will probably accuse Government in the Commission's Report

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1893.

of having taught its officers to give evidence in favour of opium. But what will he say of the evidence given in favour of opium by eminent independent physicians as well as by Rajas and Maharajas? Mr. Wilson should state at once what is there that he finds objectionable in the Government's action in connection with this Commission. And the Government as well as the President of the Commission and its other members should compel Mr. Wilson to declare what he thinks on the subject, so that Government may have an opportunity of justifying its conduct before the Commission's enquiry comes to an end. The anti-opiumists should not be allowed an opportunity of raising the opium question again.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SULABH DAINIK,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

35. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 23rd December says that severe scarcity prevails in Idalpur in the Faridpur district. Most people are getting hardly one meal a day, and some have had to go without food for two or three days together; and it is said that three or four men have already died of starvation. Is it for his fear of Sir Charles Elliott that the District Magistrate has not yet reported the matter to Government? And what about the petition the people submitted to the Commissioner?

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 24th, 1893.

36. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash* of the 24th December says that Babu Mahim Chandra Gupta, Sub-Inspector of Police, Nawabganj, in the Dacca district, has been compelled to retire on pension for having presumed to submit correct reports of the local scarcity. Let no officer henceforward talk of famine. Twelve or thirteen hundred men ate every day at *annachhatras*, and people in hunger forgot even every consideration of caste, and yet there was in the opinion of Government no distress whatever. People's sufferings from the distress have been intensified by the closing of three *annachhatras*, and many are being carried off by fever, diarrhoea and cholera. But the Government sits unmoved and immovable. Last week rice sold at 4 rupees and 5 annas per maund: this week it is selling at 3 rupees and 12 annas per maund. Last year rice sold at this time at 2 rupees and 10 annas per maund.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SAHACHAR,
Dec 20th 1893.

37. The *Sahachar* of the 20th December has the following:—

The last Levee in Government House was unusually crowded; and this, the *Indian Daily News* thinks, means that people of all creeds and communities felt a desire to show their respect for the statesman who has now governed India for five years. The *Englishman*, the *Pioneer* and the *Indian Daily News* speak at times as if they knew more of the feelings of the Indian people than those people themselves, and sometime they even profess to write as if they were the mouthpieces of the Indian people. It may be that natives mustered strong at the levee in order to make amends for their small attendance on the occasion of the Viceroy's landing at the Babu Ghat. But events are often attributed to any but the true cause. All the world knows the story of the preacher who, on seeing an old woman weep during his sermon, thought that it was owing to his persuasive discourse, but who, upon questioning the woman, received the discomfiting reply that she was weeping because the movement of his beard had reminded her how a favourite goat of hers, long since dead, used to move its beard. Attending a levee is not at all a pleasant or comfortable thing, and people attend levees simply because that is the fashion. Picture to yourself a crowded hall where there is not even standing room, an *Aid-de-Camp* reading cards, and bawling out "Mr. and Babu So and So." Mr. or Babu so and so nodding and the Viceroy nodding in return, and then a push at Mr. or Babu So and So from behind, with a request to sit down, and you have a correct idea of an English levee. The durbars of the old Hindu kings or Moghul Emperors were very different things. There everybody sat and talked and laughed together, and heard songs. The Europeans themselves look upon levees and political dinners as nuisances, and go to them only because fashion requires it. The natives too go to levees only because many of them think that attendance at levees is a distinction.

What has Lord Lansdowne, one may ask, done that he should be popular with the Indians? What great work is there that he has done? Not one man in the country will say that he lost his post, appealed to Lord Lansdowne, and was reinstated. Not one poor man in the country will say that Lord Lansdowne ever gave him enough to live upon for three months. Not one of the many laws made during his administration has proved beneficial to the people in its operation. The old Rajas and Nawabs used to build temples, serais and musjids and excavated tanks and wells. European civilisation does not permit kings and rulers of men to execute such works. But there are works of public utility that are permitted by that civilisation, and has Lord Lansdowne done any of such works? Where is the railway line or irrigation canal that Lord Lansdowne has caused to be constructed? Look at Cashmere, Manipur, Rewa, Bhopal, Hyderabad and Gwalior, and point out a single act which will cause Lord Lansdowne to be remembered by the present or any succeeding generation of Indians. It would be unkind on the eve of His Excellency's retirement to refer to the jury question or to the trial of Tikendrajit. It will be for history to say whether the contemporary verdict on these points has been right or wrong. We have always admired Lord Lansdowne's affable manners. He never speaks one discourteous word. A Governor with this qualification may do in Canada, where the ministers do everything, and where all that is expected of the Governor is that he should be a social man and give dinners to people of all parties. Lord Lansdowne possesses this quality of sociability in an eminent degree, or he would not be so popular with the official circle at Simla. But the Viceroy of India must be a Governor in the true sense of the word, and should govern not the country alone, but his officials too. Lord Lansdowne's acts would show that in his opinion a Governor's duty was performed if he only punished guilty people. That the people should be protected as well, that it is necessary to prevent the officials from acting foolishly or in a spirit of partiality, are things that seem scarcely to have occurred to him, if we are to judge of his views by his actions. As the representative of the sovereign he deserves our respect. But unfortunately we find nothing in the work he has done as a statesman for which we need to be grateful to him. But a man in power has no lack of sycophants; and Lord Lansdowne will receive addresses. A marble statue will also probably be erected to perpetuate his memory. The high officials are for it, and it would only be necessary to milk a few Rajas in order to find money for the purpose. But ask the public and they will say—"Your Lord Lansdowne's administration is exactly like your English levee. Both are as dry as dust, and will not yield one drop of juice."

38. Referring to the order of the Magistrate of Nasik, prohibiting the passage of a Hindu religious procession by the musjid at Iola, the same paper says that that officer had at first issued the very just order that the procession, which had always passed by that musjid, should also pass by it in future. But the Musalmans pelted the Collector and the Deputy Collector from the musjid and that frightened the police. An order was therefore issued prohibiting the Hindus from passing in procession by that musjid.

A Government should not rest satisfied only with punishing guilty people. It is one of its first and foremost duties to protect loyal and law-abiding people. But certain officials are acting with a short-sightedness which is causing Government itself to be viewed unfavourably by the people. For common people in this country cannot distinguish between the action of a Magistrate and the action of the Government. The cry has now been raised that the Musalmans are disturbed in their devotions by the sound of gongs and musical instruments near their musjids. But do not the Musalmans themselves make music on the occasion of their religious festivals? The sound of tom-tom on the occasion of their Mohurram prevents a whole neighbourhood from sleeping at night. May not the Hindus and Christians then complain with equal justice that they are disturbed in their devotions by the horrible din the Musalmans make? And yet the foolish officials are everywhere prohibiting Hindu processions on the absurd plea that their music disturbs Musalman devotions. And is a tom-tom the only thing that makes a noise? The streets in all large towns are always full of noise. There is the rattling of carriages, the creaking of carts, and the cries of hawkers. And does not this noise interrupt the devotions of the

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 20th, 1893.

Musalmans? The Moghul Emperors would certainly have laughed away such a ridiculous objection as that which is now being made by the Musalmans.

Lord Lansdowne has said that he will have things as they have always existed, but local officials are acting in a different spirit. Did those people then do a very wrong thing who characterised that declaration of Lord Lansdowne as a mere word of mouth which meant nothing? And is not the Government appearing very weak in the eyes of the people on account of its officials acting in this way? Where is the prestige for which the Government feels so much concerned?

SUDHAKAR,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

39. The *Sudhakar* of the 22nd December refers to the shooting of a Musalman named Kachi Shaikh near Fulta in the Diamond Harbour sub-division, by some English soldiers on account of his having attempted to prevent them from entering into his zanana and remarks as follows:—

The English soldiers are brutes in human form without one soft or virtuous feeling in their hearts. Many of them are godless men. They are drunkards and slaves of the sensual desires. It costs them no twinge of conscience to kill men, to violate women, and to misappropriate other people's property. Whenever they go a—hunting musket in hand, they destroy crops, rob orchards, shoot domestic animals, and chase women from wicked motives. And the slightest opposition offered them by a native in the doing of these wicked acts costs him his life. Not a week now passes but some misdeed or other of this sort is perpetrated by these brutal soldiers. They often make their escape after the commission of such crimes, and even when they are detected they are seldom punished. They are let off on the plea of accident, or of insanity, or of the diseased spleen of their black victim. The officers are much to blame for letting these unruly brutes go about armed. We heard that restrictions had been placed on hunting by soldiers, but this is in no way borne out by facts.

GENERAL AND
GAUHARIASFI,
Dec. 22nd, 1893.

40. The *General and Gauhariasfi* of the 22nd December says that the National Muhammadan Association should give an address of welcome to the coming Viceroy, as well as a valedictory address to the retiring Viceroy.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

41. The *Bangavasi* of the 23rd December says that a clerk in a certain office having applied for leave of absence to enable him to perform the *srádth* ceremony of his deceased father, the Head of the office refused leave and remarked on his application that "Government servants should leave off those habits," and said that those who could not do so, should arrange for performance of the ceremony either before or after office hours. Alas! a Hindu who accepts service under Government must suffer so much insult and mortification. And let it be also noted that the officer who passed this order, though a Christian and a Civilian, bears a native and a Hindu name! Is the writer very wrong in repeatedly advocating the view that the country ought to be ruled by real Civilians and not by imitation Civilians? A very large number of real saheb Civilians have come to this country since the British conquest, but did any of them ever speak of the *srádth* and other religious ceremonies of the Hindus with the contempt which this imitation Civilian has expressed for them by calling them 'those habits'?

BANGAVASI.

Two cow-slaughter cases.

42. The same paper has received the two following letters:—

(1). One Radhanath Chakravarti of Barai, within the jurisdiction of the Gándiná thana in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, owned an ox which he had a mind to sell. But being unwilling to sell it to a Muhammadan, he rejected the proposals of certain Muhammadans of the neighbourhood to sell the animal to them. Suddenly, on the night of the 8th December last, the ox was stolen from the Brahman's cow-shed and slaughtered in an adjacent field, and its head was placed in the Brahman's *Thakurbari*, and its four legs in front of his bed-room, and the flesh and bones were thrown into his pond. The poor Brahman was much pained to see all this on the following morning, and lodged a complaint in the Criminal Court. The case is pending.

(2). On the night of the 9th December last, some one slaughtered a cow in the house of Dayalal Singh, a resident of Panighata-Velagachi within the jurisdiction of the Kaliaganj thana in the Purnea district, and left the head of the slaughtered animal suspended by a rope in the well whose water was used

for drinking purposes, and the four legs in the four rooms in the house, in one of which was the family god. The matter having been reported to the thana, an investigation is going on.

The Editor observes that if the cases have been correctly reported, they are enough to strike one dumb. It is hoped that the Government will enquire into these cases carefully.

43. The same paper says that Munshi Newal Kishor, a respectable and wealthy resident of Lucknow, who thinks that the Government is greatly incensed against the Hindus for the religious movements they are now making, was requested to take the chair, at the recent meeting of the Bharat-Maha-Dharma-Mandal held in Dehli, but refused to do so, because he considered that taking the chair might mean that he was closely connected with the Mandal itself. Newal Kishor had also promised a donation of a lakh of rupees towards the establishment of a Sanskrit College in connection with the Mandal, but withdrew his promise as soon as he heard that the College was intended to be placed under the supervision of the Mandal. There can be no doubt that it is only the attitude which has been taken up by the North Western Provinces Government towards the Gorakshani-Sabhas has excited this fear in the Munshi's mind, for Government cannot possibly have any ill-feeling against religious Sabhas. And when the attitude of Government towards the Gorakshani-Sabhas has excited so much fear in the mind of a man of the Munshi's position and intelligence, it is easy to imagine what a terror it must have awakened in the minds of ordinary people. But is not good that the people should stand in such terror of the Government, and Government should therefore dispel this fear from the minds of the people.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 23rd, 1893.

44. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 27th December says that Sir George White has purchased the house at Simla which belonged to Lord Roberts, and asks if the price has been paid out of the public treasury.

SULABH DAINIK,
Dec. 27th, 1893.

45. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 28th December says that the different Secretaries to the Government of India have written histories of Lord Lansdowne's administration in the various departments of Government, each Secretary having undertaken the history of his own department. It is said that these histories have been completed; but they will not be published. That is to say, these secret histories will be kept secret. But why this fear to publish them?

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 28th, 1893.

URIYA PAPERS.

46. The *Samvadvaika* of the 16th November regrets to find that the harvesting of the winter rice has led to many petty cases of theft and battery among the rural population of the Balasore district.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
Nov. 16th, 1893.

47. The same paper of the 23rd November remarks that the Sadar Local Board of the Balasore district should not be deprived of the power of inspecting and administering the roads, pounds and schools lying within their jurisdiction, a power which they have been enjoying for several years past. The roads, pounds and schools placed in charge of the Local Board have all along shown signs of improvement, and there is no plausible ground for taking the institutions out of their hands.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
Nov. 23rd, 1893.

48. The *Utkaldipika* of the 18th November advises the District Board of Cuttack not to farm out the ferry ghâts of Punahasa (Luna river), of Narendrapur (Chitrot-pala river) and of Joypur (Mahanadi river) in that district, as that system has already put a large number of people to great inconvenience without bringing any perceptible income to the District Board.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Nov. 18th, 1893.

49. The same paper does not agree with the remark of Mr. Cooke, the Officiating Commissioner of the Orissa Division, in his Annual Report, wherein he gives out that the natives of Orissa are in as prosperous a condition as their brethren in Bengal.

UTKALDIPIKA.

UTKALDIPKA.
Nov. 25th, 1893.

50. Referring to the rules framed in connection with the Provincial Civil Service and Subordinate Civil Service examinations, the *Utkaldipika* of the 25th November suggests

Service rules.

that the passing of the B. A. examination should not be made compulsory in the case of officers already in Government service.

UTKALDIPKA.

51. The same paper exhorts Government to encourage the local manufacture of salt in Orissa and thereby revive an industry that is calculated to support a large number of

Salt manufactured in Orissa.

poor people residing on the sea-board of Orissa.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSHAK,
Second fortnight of
Agrahayan, 1300 B.S.

52. A correspondent of the *Paridarshak*, for the second fortnight of *Agrahayan* 1300 B.S., complains of the action of the

The Raghunandan hills in
Assam.

Assam Government in letting out the Raghunandan hills in the Bejura pargana of the Sylhet district to the tea-planters for plantation, and says that these hills have supplied a large number of the poor people of the pargana and its neighbourhood with fuel, building material, pasture ground for cattle, and even the means of their own sustenance, while, since they have been brought under the Forests law, they have also secured a good revenue to Government. The letting out of these hills to the planters may, it is true, bring a slightly larger revenue to Government, but it will ruin the people of Bejura and its neighbourhood, and the inhabitants of Hill Tippera in particular. It is hoped therefore that the prospect of an increased revenue will not tempt Government to ruin a large number of its subjects.

PARIDARSHAK.

53. The same paper says that, when the supposed murderers of Mr. Cockburn were traced by Babu Jay Chandra Bhadra, the writer said that that officer deserved

The Balladhun affair.

to be promoted for the ability he had shown. But it now appears that Babu Jay Chandra was brought to Cachar simply with the object of persecuting the Manipuris. Indeed, the Balladhun affair now seems to have been meant to be a continuation of the vengeance wreaked on the Manipuris in the Manipur war, and by means of subsequent oppressions, an account of which was published in an issue of this paper in September last. The case clearly shows what a stain the Assam Administration is on the British Government of India. The entire official staff of Assam, from the Chief Commissioner down to the lowest civilian, are men who have been rejected by the Bengal and North-Western Provinces Governments.

SRIHATTAVASI,
First Fortnight of
Paus, 1300 B.S.

54. The *Srihattavasi* for the first fortnight of Paus 1300 B. S. accuses Babu Sarvananda Das, Extra Assistant Commissioner of Sylhet, of ill-treating and even abusing his subordinates.

Babu Sarvananda Das, Extra
Assistant Commissioner, Sylhet.

SRIHATTAVASI.

55. The same paper says that it is the High Court and the mercy of God which have saved the prisoners in the Balladhun case. But who is to answer for the illegal action

The Balladhun case.

of the police? A history of the case will be published in pamphlet form and will be circulated in England. And if this case does not open the eyes of the British public to the administration of justice in India, the Indians must know that nothing but misery will be their perpetual lot.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 30th December 1893.

